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The Report of the Port Medical Officer

1959

Gt Yarmouth

The Report of the Port Medical Officer

PORT OF GREAT YARMOUTH

INTRODUCTION.

This report is again compiled in accordance with the form and sequence suggested by the Ministry of Health in circular 33/52. Information under sections I, V, VI, VIII, XV and XVI has not been repeated as there has been no change from the previous report.

Section I — STAFF

TABLE A.

No change.

Section II — AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the M.O.H.	By the Inspector	
Foreign Ports	472	103,319	13	147	—
Coastwise	1,137	288,702	—	41	—
Total	1,609	392,021	13	188	—

Section III — CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

There was no passenger traffic during the year.

CARGO TRAFFIC.

The principal imports and exports for 1959 are shown below together with the figures for the previous two years.

Principal imports :

Import		1959	1958	1957
Grain (Quarters)	...	203,710	186,214	136,077
Groceries (Tons)	...	8,951	8,017	3,544
Meal, etc. (Tons)	...	11,128	11,137	10,218
Manures (Tons)	...	27,414	21,365	19,404
Salt (Tons)	...	7,085	6,670	5,784
Strawboards (Tons)	...	4,410	10,425	8,105
Wood (Standards)	...	20,064	18,336	14,454
Woodpulp (Tons)	...	3,233	2,068	3,026
Metals (Tons)	...	583	699	3,309
Coal (Tons)	...	157,030	169,384	185,522
Cattle Cake (Tons)	...	2,605	2,324	1,465
Paper (Tons)	...	368	221	—
Petrol and oil (Tons)	...	335,904	250,423	97,199
Stone (Tons)	...	6,750	8,331	9,990
Potatoes (Tons)	...	2,643	1,767	187
Sugar Beet (Tons)	...	—	—	1,387
Oystershell (Tons)	...	1,269	1,042	1,185
Machinery (Tons)	...	68	52	—
Miscellaneous goods (Tons)		3,632	1,965	2,160
Herrings (Tons)	...	1,136	—	—

Fish landings :

In addition to the imports shown above, 28,297 crans of herrings were landed at the Fish Market during the fishing season. The following figures provide a comparison between the quantity and value of herrings landed at Great Yarmouth during 1959 and previous years.

Year	No. of Landings	Quantity (Crans)	Value
1959	1,734	28,297	£195,531
1958	1,771	34,126	£255,191
1957	2,628	72,458	£390,701
1956	2,127	60,213	£281,268

Principal exports :

Export		1959	1958	1957
Grain (Quarters)	...	79,693	86,785	16,462
Herrings (Tons)	...	189	1,173	1,618
Live Cattle (Head)	...	3,655	—	3,145
Molasses (Tons)	...	10,708	5,157	8,548
Sugar (Tons)	...	7,820	6,685	12,839
Scrap Metal (Tons)	...	59,027	27,594	26,042
Coke breeze (Tons)	...	3,617	6,049	4,842
Machinery (Tons)	...	—	117	403
Spent oxide (Tons)	...	1,121	697	—
Miscellaneous goods (Tons)		2,019	1,555	1,928

PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE.

Belgium—Antwerp.

Denmark—Fredricksund, Esbjerg.

East Germany—Wismar, Rostock.

West Germany—Bremen, Hamburg.

Finland—Abo, Kemi, Kotka, Kasko.

Holland—Amsterdam, Rotterdam.

Norway—Christiansund, Trondheim, Oslo, Bergen.

Poland—Stettin.

Russia—Leningrad.

Sweden—Gothenburg, Kalmar, Larvik.

Section IV — INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There was no inland barge traffic during the year.

Section V — WATER SUPPLY

No change.

Section VI — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

No change.

Section VII — SMALLPOX

(1) Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board, smallpox cases would be admitted to Ipswich Smallpox Hospital.

(2) It has been agreed that Ipswich Ambulance Service would undertake responsibility for all arrangements for transport of smallpox cases to hospital. Applications for transport would be sent to the Resident Medical Officer, St. Helen's Hospital, Ipswich (Telephone number Ipswich 77211). The Ipswich Authority is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available :—

Dr. W. A. Oliver, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.

Dr. A. G. Smith, 24 Unthank Road, Norwich.

(4) Specimens for laboratory examination would be sent to the Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, London, N.W.9.

Section VIII — VENEREAL DISEASE

No change.

Section IX — CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SHIPS

TABLE D. — Nil.

Section X — OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No cases of malaria occurred in ships entering the port.

Section XI — MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No ships infected with or suspected for plague arrived at the port.

Section XII — MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

(1) Ships arriving from foreign ports are examined by the Inspector in the first instance, and if any evidence is found the Rodent Officer is called in to make a more extensive search.

(2) When required, bacteriological and pathological examinations of rodents are carried out on behalf of the authority by the Public Health Laboratory, Norwich. No rodents were sent for examination during the year.

(3) Great Yarmouth is not an “approved port” for “deratting” but when any action is required trapping and poisoning is carried out by the staff of the local authority.

(4) Efforts are made to secure the efficient rat-proofing of ships, and particular attention is paid to foodstores, storerooms, etc.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year :—

Category	Number			Total
	In ships from foreign ports	In coastwise ships and fishing vessels	In docks, quays, wharfs and warehouses	
Black rats	—	—	—	—
Brown rats	—	12	121	133
Species not known	—	—	—	—
Sent for examination	—	—	—	—
Infected with plague	—	—	—	—

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports :—

Great Yarmouth is not an approved port.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

Four rodent control certificates were issued in accordance with Article 3(2)(b) of the Order.

The object of the issue of these certificates is to provide port authorities with the information that coastwise vessels are free or have recently been freed from rats and mice. They are valid for four months from the date of issue.

Section XIII — INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices :—

Nature and number of inspections		Notices served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory notices	*Other notices	
British ships	58	—	3	3 complied with
Foreign ships	130	—	11	10 complied with
British fishing vessels	—	—	—	—
Total	188	—	14	13 complied with

* Including oral notices

Section XIV — PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

No change.

Section XV — MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

No change.

Section XVI — MISCELLANEOUS

No change.

FOOD INSPECTION

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937-1948

Food imports continued during the year, mainly from Holland. They included canned luncheon meats, canned fruit, canned ham, lard, cheese and onions.

Inspection and sampling of these imports were carried out over the year. The samples taken were submitted to Dr. E. C. Wood, the Public Analyst.

Number of inspections of consignments of imported food : 101.

Samples of imported food sent to public analyst :

	No. submitted	Result
Lard	3	Genuine
Canned pork luncheon meat	1	Genuine
Dried peas	1	Genuine
Biscuits	1	Genuine
Canned blackberries	2	Genuine
Canned Cream	1	Genuine
Canned luncheon meat	1	Not genuine
Canned braised pork kidneys	1	Not genuine

The samples of canned luncheon meat and canned braised pork kidneys were reported by the Public Analyst as not genuine because the meat contents were below the standards considered as reasonable ones by the Association of Public Analysts. In addition, Dr. Wood considered that because of the low meat content of the canned braised pork kidneys they should have been described as braised pork kidneys in gravy.

These matters were taken up with the Importer who agreed to instruct his manufacturer to produce the above-mentioned products at not less than the requested percentages of meat content, and also agreed to alter the labelling of the braised pork kidneys.